



# REGIONAL COUNCIL REPORT

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**  
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**Hal Bernson – City of  
Los Angeles – District #59**

## Meeting of January 9, 2003

### SCAG'S 2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM APPROVED

The 2003 Legislative Program is a compilation of legislative efforts already underway during 2002 and newly identified focus areas. The goal is to focus SCAG's legislative efforts in a manner which maximizes impact for the region and establishes SCAG as a key resource for Members of Congress, Members of the California Legislature, their staffs and department and administration officials.

During 2003, SCAG's primary federal priorities will be in the authorization of the Transportation Equity Act (TEA-3), enhancing the Southern California Region's funding opportunities in the forthcoming appropriation cycle, obtaining pre-deployment funds for Maglev, and legislation related to the Southwest Compact. Key state priorities will be the continuation of work related to legislation reforming the Regional Housing Needs Assessment process and phasing out the statutory cap of the Transportation Development Act (TDA). Another major priority will be to maintain transportation funding and develop innovative transportation funding proposals.

### COMPASS (GROWTH VISIONING) PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Southern California Compass effort, led by SCAG, is a unique effort among public, private, educational and non-profit groups to rethink the region's future. Growth Visioning is an innovative planning and policy tool that gives the ability to shape the future of Southern California. This process gives information that will allow options to be explored, develop growth alternatives, and the ability to discuss alternatives with everyone. It uses an inclusive collaborative approach to bring citizens together.

One interim product of the Compass Project will be the development of two growth scenarios for the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The development of these growth scenarios and corresponding Environmental Impact Report (EIR) /RTP Alternatives will be early milestones in the current effort to create a streamlined and integrated EIR and RTP.

On January 28 & 29, 2003 a major press event will be held to dramatize the bold nature of SCAG's Compact Project, as well as the sheer vastness and envisioning a future direction for 38,000 sq. miles of Southern California. In addition the Compass website will launch on January 16, 2003. Please visit the website at [www.socalcompass.org](http://www.socalcompass.org) to register for info and news. You may also contact Lynn Harris, Manager @ (213) 236-1875 or [harris@scag.ca.gov](mailto:harris@scag.ca.gov).

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